



P.P.S. Elm Class

September 2018
Autumn Term

Dahlicious Dahl / Groovy Greeks

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the autumn term. We hope you had an exciting summer break and are ready for your child's new learning experiences this term. We are very lucky to start the term by looking at a fantastic author; Roald Dahl. We will then move with a historical twist looking at the Ancient Greeks and how they have impacted on life today.

In **Science**, we will be acquiring an understanding of forces, particularly gravity and manmade forces. We will focus particularly on how objects fall to Earth, identifying the effect of air, water resistance and friction. We will also investigate mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears. We will then look at the Earth, Sun and Moon, describing the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the Solar System. Also, how the Earth's rotation explains day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

Our **P.E.** lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. In P.E. will be taking part in training to become Play Leaders and hockey as we focus on using tactics and

working with a team.

Computing lessons will give children the opportunity to create their own art gallery, using Sketch Up. They will fill this with Ancient Greek artefacts and consider how architects design galleries for a specific audience. In the second half of the term they will be using coding to design their own Ancient Greek game in Scratch. We will also look at e-safety, ensuring the pupils have an understanding of how to use the internet appropriately.

Our **History** focus from the second half of the term will be the Ancient Greeks. The children will look at how the Greeks have influenced life today through; The Olympics, education and philosophical ideas. They will also have a chance to delve into the daily life of the Ancient Greeks and take part in an opening ceremony of the Greek games, with a temple experience thrown in.

Art lessons will focus on the amazing work of Quentin Blake and his relationship with Roald Dahl. They will have the opportunity to use their own medium to create a sketch inspired by Blake's eclectic art work. This will be achieved by observation and sketching of his work, before coming up with their own character. Following this the children will design and form their own Modroc Greek vase, using stamps to create a typical Greek design.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.



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In **Design and Technology** we will put our engineering knowledge to the test and create our own Greek temples. The pupils will test out different materials, and how to strengthen their designs. They will then choose materials and tools, before being challenged to create a load bearing structure, which will be able to withstand testing by the Gods.

To start the year we are very lucky to have Bible Explorers visiting year 5 as they will take the pupils on an interactive tour through the Old Testament. Our **R.E.** lessons will then look at the idea of creation and fall. The children will have the opportunity to debate conflicting and complementary ideas about these events and create their own balanced argument.

This term the children will be learning to play the Clarinet. They will have the opportunity to practice different pieces, learn to read music and perform their own compositions.

In **French** the children will learn to discuss their musical preferences and to say which instruments they play or enjoy, as well as describing what other people are playing. They learn an adaptation of the song 'I Am the Music Man'. Children look in detail at an orchestra and find out what some of the instruments are called.

Of course, English and Maths will be taught on a daily basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. If you would like any additional information about this term's learning please do not hesitate to ask me.

As a school we are continuing our focus on reading and we will be encouraging the children to read a wide range of books. To start this year we will be focussing on: 'The Twits, by Roald Dahl,' 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl and 'Who let the Gods out?' by Maz Evans.

Homework will continue to be set weekly, with a focus on using Lexia, Mathletics and TT Rockstars to boost the children's core skills in mathematics and English.

We are really looking forward to working with year 5 this year and know it will be an exciting, challenging and fun-filled year. If you have any concerns or feel that you need to talk to us please feel free to catch us at the school gate or make an appointment at the office.

Tim Parsons and Laura Sandon-Webb

Key dates for you diary

Parent drop in morning—14th September

Parents evening—15th and 17th October

INSET days—18th and 19th October

School Photographs—2nd November

IWM trip—7th November

Well being day—9th November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Home-work due in	Home-work set		
		Timetables test		
	Spelling test			
	PE	PE		